lake for 1996-2000 prepared by the Government of Orissa has been approved by the Inter-Ministerial Empowered Committee of the Ministry of Finance and a sum of Rs. 4.05 crores has been released for purchase of dredger and taking up dredging activities in October 1997.

Pollution emission by various equipments

356. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any estimates have been made about extent of pollution emissions by diesel/petrol generating sets being used in cities and villages, oil pumps being used for irrigation and other purposes, and on account of other equipments run on diesel/petrol/furnace oil, etc.;

(b) if so, what are these and their impact on environment and if not, why;

(c) whether the pollution hazards of these equipments are no less dangerous than of automative vehicles; and

(d) if so, what action has been taken or proposed to be taken to check pollution hazards of such equipments?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) No specific study has been done regarding pollution from generators used in cities and villages, oil pumps used for irrigation and other purposes, and other equipments run on diesel/petrol/furnace oil. However, generators/oil pumps/ other equipments run on diesel/petrol/ furnace oil cause air pollution due to emission of carbon monoxide, sulphur dioxide, oxides of nitrogen, hydrocarbons and smoke. Generators also cause noise pollution.

(c) Pollution from generators and other equipments run on diesel/petrol/ furnace oil and automotive vehicles are not comparable because vehicular pollution is not localised and disperses rapidly whereas the diesel generating sets and other equipments run on diesel/ petrol/furnace oil are stationary sources and cause localised build up of pollution.

(d) Steps taken to control air and noise pollution caused by generators and other equipments include:

(1) General emission standards have been notified for diesel generator sets with respect to particulate matter.

(2) Noise standards for the generators have been notified at the manufacturing stage.

(3) Ambient air quality standards have been notified in respect of noise for various category of areas.

(4) Diesel with a sulphur content of 0.5% has already been introduced in the four metropolitan cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai with effect from 1.4.95. Low sulphur diesel (0.25%) is planned to be supplied throughout the country from 1.4.1999.

Steps taken to protect Indian tiger

357. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has failed to protect tigers as is evident from the recent killing of tiger in "Sariska Sanctuary";

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the European Parliament has called upon India to save tiger; and

(d) the concrete steps proposed to protect Indian tigers from the verge of extinction?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Tigress while crossing the State Highways No 13 of Rajasthan, opposite Sariska Palace Hotel was knocked down by a speeding truck on 4.6.1997 in the forenoon. The post

mortem report also confirms the death as being due to massive injury in the head region and brain haemorrhage.

(c) It is reported that the European Parliament has called upon India to save the Tiger, but no official communication has been received so far.

(d) The Concrete steps taken by the Government are indicated in the statement.

Statement

(i) A "Tiger Crisis Cell' has been set up in the Ministry;

(ii) The State Governments have been advised to strengthen vigilance intensify patrolling;

(iii) Funds are being provided to the State Governments for the eco-development of the areas to reduce the biotic pressure thereon.

(iv) A protocol has been signed with the Government of the Peoples Republic of China to coordinate bilateral efforts to stop illegal activities of poaching of tigers and to endeavour jointly combating of smuggling and the illegal trade of tiger bones and other parts of its body.

(v) A memorandum of understanding has been signed with His Majesty's Govt. Nepal to address wildlife related issues.

(vi) Steps have been initiated by the Government to establish the "GLOBAL TIGER FORUM" for strengthening international cooperation to curb poaching of tiger and to coordinate efforts for the conservation of tiger and its habitat throughout the range.

(vii) In the X Conference of Parties of CITES revised resolution has been adopted for control of trade and consumption of tiger parts, products and derivatives in consuming countries.

(viii) Higher allocation has been demanded in IXth Plan for conservation of Tiger and other wildlife on which the Tiger prey upon.

Toxic Release Inventories of Industries

358. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state by when Government are going to make it mandatory for the industries to publish toxic release inventories and other relevant details and force them to adopt eco-friendly options and a cleaner technology even if it is going to cost more?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): There is no proposal under consideration of the Ministry of Environment and Forests to make it mandatory for industrries to publish toxic release inventories. According to Rule-12 of the Environment (Protection) Rules 1986 the person incharge of the industry is required to intimate forthwith the release of environmental pollutants in excess of prescribed standards or any apprehension about such relese to the concerned authorities. The Government in its Policy Statement for Abatement of Pollution has emphasised that large and medium industrial units will remain totally responsible for control of pollution. The Policy Statement also states that assistance will be provided to small scale industrial units for adoption of cleaner technologies.

World Bank's Global Environment Facility

359. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the magnitude of resource flow—commitments and disbursement—from the World Bank's Global Environment Facility to India since its inception and until 31st March, 1997;